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**Fax transmission from:**

U.S. Naval Research Laboratory
Associate Counsel Intellectual Property, Code 1008.2
4555 Overlook Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20375-5325

From: Stephen Hunnius

Phone: (202) 404-1554

Fax: (202) 404-7380

To: Examiner Susan Marie Hanley
Group Art Unit 1651

Fax: (571) 273-8300

Date: April 20, 2006

Cover Sheet + 2 Pages**Message:**

Application No.: 10/627,143
Confirmation No.: 3910

Spector et al.
NC 84,766

Response to Restriction Requirement

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No.: 571 273 8300) on 4/20/06.
Stephen T. Hunnius

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APR 20 2006

Docket No.: N.C. 84,766

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/627,143
Applicants : Spector et al.
Filed : 07/25/2003
Title : Immobilization of oligonucleotides and proteins in sugar-containing
hydrogels
Grp. Art Unit : 1651
Examiner : Hanley, Susan Marie

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed on 03/15/2006.

Claims 1-33 remain in this application.

Restriction was required to one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-26, drawn to a hydrogel, classified in class 524, subclass 916.
- II. Claims 27-33, drawn to a method for assaying biomolecules by linking the biomolecule to the support with a hydrogel, classified in class 435, subclass 40.5, for example.

Applicants provisionally elect Group II, which includes claims 27-33.

Furthermore, Applicants provisionally elect the species of claim 18 and a protein (as in claims 30 and 32), with traverse. The provisional election concerns at least claims 1, 18, 27, 30, 31, 32 and 33.